the PDS losing its focus in meeting the needs of the poor and disadvantaged specially in the rural, hilly, tribal and far flung areas.

Embargo on export of foodgrains

239. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to put an embargo on the export of grains;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government have decided to pay compensation to exporters who have release orders for grains from the Food Corporation of India;

(d) if so, the amount to be paid to the exporters who were hit by the embargo; and

(e) the factors that prompted Government to take the decision to put an embargo?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

Quality of electrical gadgets

240. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that his Ministry is getting a lot of complaints regarding inferior quality of household electrical gadgets, usually non-ISI marks or otherwise of inferior quality, which at times become life hazards;

(b) if so, how many electrical gadgets are having ISI marks and what is the percentage thereof; and

(c) whether Government are thinking it making mandatory for daily-use electrical gadgets to have ISI certification?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) to (c) Taking congnizance of complaints received from consumers/consumer organizations regarding marketing of low